



Minutes City Council's Housing Committee March 23, 2010

Minutes of the meeting of the City Council's Housing Committee held on Tuesday, March 23, 2010, 3:00 p.m., in the 3rd Floor Conference Room, Tempe City Hall, 31 E. 5th Street, Tempe, Arizona.

Committee Members Present:

Councilmember Corey Woods, Chair
Vice Mayor Shana Ellis

City Staff Present:

Kay Savard, Deputy City Clerk
Theresa James, Homeless Coord
Craig Hittie, Comm Dev
Shauna Warner, Neighborhoods

Chris Salomone, Comm Dev
Carlos de Leon, Transit
Liz Chavez, Housing

Guests Present:

Jonathan Sloan, ASU
Jayson Matthews, Tempe Community Council

Councilmember Woods called the meeting to order at 2:08 p.m.

Agenda Item 1 – Public Appearances

None.

Agenda Item 2 – Housing Trust Fund Advisory Board (HTFAB) Update

Craig Hittie reported that the HTFAB has developed a mission and is in the developing stages of setting goals. The previous board vacancy has now been filled.

Agenda Item 3 – CDBG Consolidated Plan and Action Plan Update-Public Service Funding Recommendations

Craig Hittie stated that City staff partners with Tempe Community Council to coordinate federal funding for social service activities. Below is a result of the proposed fund distributions:

FY 2010/2011 CDBG PUBLIC SERVICES BREAKOUT			
SUBRECIPIENTS	AMOUNT	HUD CATEGORY	OUTCOMES (PERSONS)
Domestic Violence Shelters			
Catholic Charities	\$11,894	Battered/Abused	15
SUBTOTAL	\$11,894		
Homeless Shelter and Services			
A New Leaf	\$45,310	Public Services (general)	20
Central AZ Shelter Services	\$80,000	Public Services (general)	400
City of Tempe Homeless Coordinator	\$61,771	Public Services (general)	550
Home Base Youth Services	\$5,000	Youth Services	350
Homeward Bound	\$5,000	Public Services (general)	20
SUBTOTAL	\$197,081		
Basic Needs			
Tempe Community Action Agency	\$33,733	Public Services (general)	3,000
SUBTOTAL	\$33,733		
TOTAL	\$242,708		

Staff is scheduled to present this material to the City Council at their March 25, Issue Review Session. Jayson Matthews commended city staff for their professional contributions to this complex process.

Agenda Item 4 – Investigation into possible federal programs that are currently available or may become available to assist troubled homeowners to remain in their home

Craig Hittie reported that President Obama has announced that Arizona will be one of five states to split \$1.5 billion in federal funding aimed at assisting homeowners that are struggling to make their mortgage payments. Arizona's funding share totals \$125 million.

States are being asked to devise their own program proposals for submittal to HUD (Housing and Urban Development Authority) by April 16, 2010.

This program has three primary areas of focus:

1. *Unemployed borrowers*
2. *Underwater borrowers*
3. *Second liens*

Once the proposals have been approved, program implementation is slated for summer, 2010. County housing funding will not be adversely impacted by this federal program.

The Department of Housing has indicated that their primary goal is to prevent the elimination of the foreclosure hotline, which is being threatened due to lack of funding. The Taskforce has recently been incorporated and is seeking 501(c)(3) status.

Agenda Item 5 – Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program Update

Theresa James reported that over 80 applicants have applied for the Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program. A selection committee meets regularly to screen applications to determine whether or not applicants meet the eligibility criteria, which consist of:

- Likely to succeed in supportive housing
- Remaining stably housed
- Being chronically homeless in Tempe for one year or more
- Living at or below 50% of area media income
- Having a disability or medical condition

Members of the selection committee are tasked with contacting applicants that qualify for this program. There were some individuals that took tenancy last week. These individuals were engaged in the process and exhibited a noticeable positive change in their demeanors during the course of this process.

A local furniture manufacturer will be manufacturing and donating bedroom furniture for 35 units. The furniture will be delivered at no charge by the United Parcel Service. Staff continues to work on getting tenants amenities that are not funded, such as bus passes and other items that will increase self sufficiency.

The Tumbleweed Program has approved three homeless youth to reside in three of their apartment units. The goal for these individuals is to get them into school and find jobs for them.

Agenda Item 6 – Future Agenda Items

- HTAFB update
- CDBG Consolidated Plan and Action Plan Update-Public Service Funding Recommendations
- Property Tour recap (April 9, 2010)
- Homeless Prevention and Rapid Rehousing Program Update
- The National Association of Housing and Revitalization Officials (NAHRO) Pacific Southwest Regional Conference update

Agenda Item 7 – Future Meeting Dates

April 20, 2010, 3 pm

Agenda Item 8 – Announcements

Chris Salomone announced that the Apache Trails housing development will be scheduling a ground breaking ceremony in the near future.

Meeting adjourned at 2:31 p.m.

Prepared by: Kay Savard
Reviewed by: Craig Hittie

Jan Hort
City Clerk